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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLYCOUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Military Information from the Border Area Southwest of Plauen and Sonneberg and the Area East of Luebeck.EVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED

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DATE PREPARED 2 March 1951REFERENCES

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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1. On 11 January 1951, about 50 to 70 Soviet soldiers occupied the inn in Gassenreuth (M 51/K 00) which was located on the highway to Oelsnitz (M 51/K 11).
2. About 50 Soviet soldiers were quartered in Troschenreuth, on the highway to Plauen, since 11 January. *
3. The Soviet unit in Gross Zobern (M 51/K 00) was replaced between 13 and 15 January. The VP unit stationed there until that time was exchanged for police from Probstzella (M 51/J 52) and Lauenstein (M 51/J 51). The Soviet unit from Gross Zobern maintained a detail of one officer and eight NM at the checkpoint on the Hof-Plauen autobahn, where a Volkspolizei detail of 1 officer and 10 police was also stationed.
4. The Soviet unit in Gutenfuerst (M 51/K 01) was replaced by another unit which was mostly made up of young soldiers. Twenty Soviet soldiers and 36 police were quartered in Grobau (M 51/J 91) near Gutenfuerst. Soldiers in Gutenfuerst and Grobau were seen digging foxholes in their respective areas.
5. A Soviet detachment of about 50 soldiers was stationed in Juchhoeh (M 51/J 90) at the old highway to Schleiz since 30 December 1950. A Soviet detachment of undetermined strength moved into Dornholz (M 51/J 90) south of Juchhoeh on 2 January. *
6. A Soviet detail was quartered in the town hall in Hirschberg (M 51/J 80) since 2 January. The Volkspolizei Kommando formerly stationed there had allegedly been transferred to Pottiga (M 51/J 80).
7. About 50 Soviet soldiers were quartered in Lehesten (M 51/J 61) since 2 January, some of them were quartered in the mill of Lehesten. On 17 January, it was observed that five soldiers strung a telephone line from a position at the northwestern exit of Hirschberg toward the Lehesten mill. Another telephone line ran from positions at the

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Class. Changed To: TS S C

Approved For Release 2006/02/01 : CIA-RDP82-00457R007300050010-9

Date: 02-08-78By:

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Saale River to an arbor which was used as quarters. The positions were occupied by soldiers at all times. Changing of sentries was observed. *

8. The Soviet unit in Lehesten, numbering about 100 men, was quartered in the house of medical practitioner Dr Weiss and in the old forestry house. *
9. It was said that 35 Soviet soldiers were stationed in Ossa (M 51/J 61) and another 35 soldiers in Heberndorf (M 51/J 61). *
10. On 22 January, it was learned that the Soviet soldiers who recently arrived in Neuhaus-Schierschnitz (M 51/O 49) patrolled the border independent of German police. Each patrol consisted of two soldiers.
11. Additional houses for the quartering of Soviet troops were requisitioned in Foeritz (M 51/O 49).
12. Additional Soviet troops were to be stationed in Schwaerzdorf (M 51/O 49) and Jagdshof, Kreis Sonneberg (M 51/J 40). Local residents said that maneuvers would be held there in the spring. **
13. Civilians and Soviet soldiers, supervised by a Soviet officer, took the measurements of the loading ramp in Koepfelsdorf (M 51/J 40) near Sonneberg on 23 January. A civilian stated that the load capacity of the ramp was being tested.
14. No changes in the occupation of the localities of Herrnburg, Luedersdorf, Palingen, Lauen, Selmsdorf, and Dassow were observed until 27 January, nor were there any indications of a forthcoming change. Truck [redacted] driven by a soldier wearing black-bordered red epaulets, was seen moving through Luedersdorf toward Herrnburg. Truck [redacted] driven by a soldier wearing black-bordered red epaulets, was seen in Herrnburg. ***

* [redacted] Comment. Compare with previous information on the same localities by other border crossers. [redacted]

** [redacted] Comment. The burgomaster of Schwaerzdorf previously mentioned that maneuvers would be conducted in the Thuringian border area. [redacted]

[redacted] The information is believed to have been based on rumors.

*** [redacted] Comment. Compare with similar observations made [redacted] between 30 December 1950 and 5 January 1951. [redacted]
The truck [redacted]
Div. [redacted]

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